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(71) Applicant

Roy Alan Mauger
24 Coombe Valley Road, Preston, Weymouth, Dorset,
DT3 6NJ, United Kingdom

(72) Inventor

Roy Alan Mauger

(74) Agent and/or Address for Service

Roy Alan Mauger
24 Coombe Valley Road, Preston, Weymouth, Dorset,
DT3 6NJ, United Kingdom

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None

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(54) Indicator labels for use on electrical plugs

(57) A label which comprises a sheet of insulating material containing an appropriate number of holes of a suitable size, shape and spacing to enable it to be easily located on the pins of an electrical plug, such that on the insertion of the plug into its mating socket, the device is trapped between the two, leaving some part of its surface clearly visible and carrying an instruction, warning or identity label. Such indication may be by means of colour-coding, by symbol or by written instruction.

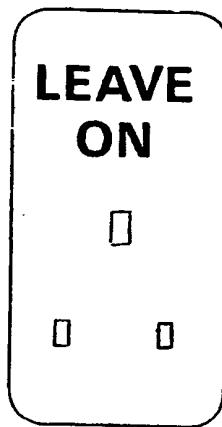


FIG 2

At least one drawing originally filed was informal and the print reproduced here is taken from a later filed formal copy.

The claims were filed later than the filing date within the period prescribed by Rule 25(1) of the Patents Rules 1982.

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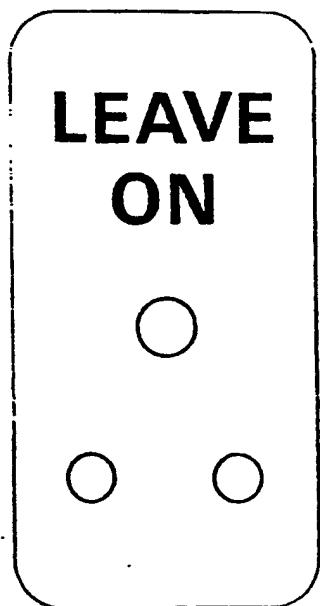


FIG 1

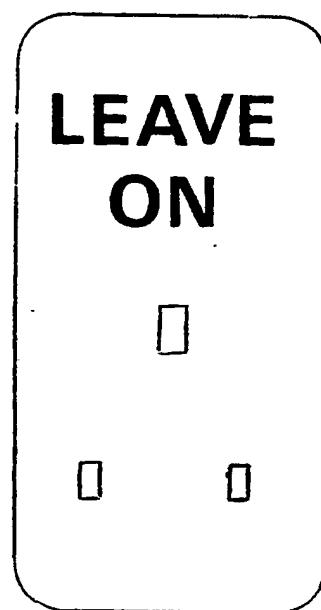


FIG 2

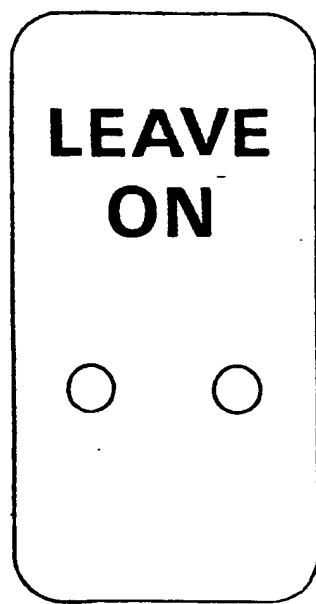


FIG 3

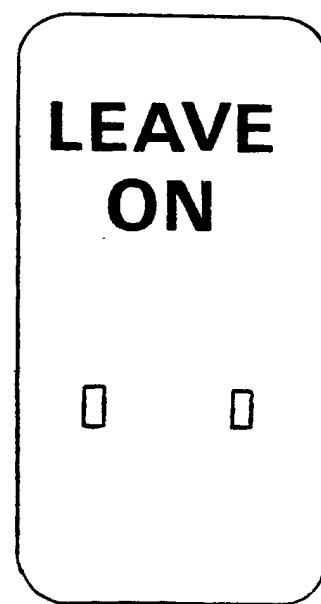


FIG 4

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INDICATOR LABELS FOR USE ON ELECTRICAL PLUGS

This invention relates to a device which may be trapped between the plug and the mating socket of an electrical connector leaving some part of its surface clearly visible and carrying an instruction, warning or identity label.

In some applications it is desirable or essential that electrical apparatus shall not be disconnected either by switching off or by otherwise being disconnected from its electrical supply. By way of example, devices such as freezers, 10 refrigerators, recorders, alarms, computer equipment, communication equipment or medical support systems may, if disconnected from their supply, present hazardous situations or otherwise cause inconvenience.

This invention comprises a sheet of electrically 15 insulating material which contains an appropriate number of holes of a suitable size, shape and spacing to enable it to be easily located on the pins of a plug such that on insertion of the plug into its mating socket, the device shall be entrapped between the two. The thickness of the material 20 shall be such that it will not impede the safety or electrical

efficiency of the electrical connections. Some part of the device shall protrude from the plug/socket interface and may, by way of visual indication, show the nature of the warning, instruction or label. Such indication may be by colour-coded coding, by symbol or by written instruction.

The indication may be permanent or temporary and may be applied by engraving, printing, by separately affixed label or by some other appropriate means.

Examples of warnings or instructions would include:

10 'LEAVE ON', 'DO NOT SWITCH OFF' etc. whilst examples of labels might include: 'FREEZER', 'ALARM', 'COMPUTER' etc.

Examples of the invention are given in FIGS 1-4.

CLAIMS

- 1 An indicator label which may be trapped between the plug and the mating socket of an electrical connector leaving some part of its surface clearly visible and carrying an instruction, warning or identity label.
- 2 An indicator label as claimed in Claim 1 which is easily located on the pins of the plug by means of an appropriate number of holes of suitable size, shape and spacing.
- 3 An indicator label as claimed in any preceding claim, which is made of a sheet of an electrically insulating material such that it will not impede the safety or electrical efficiency of the electrical connections.
- 4 An indicator label as claimed in any preceding claim, which has a visual indication which is either permanent or temporary and may be applied by engraving, printing or separately affixed label.
- 5 An indicator label as claimed in any preceding claim, on which the indication is by means of colour-coding, symbol, written instruction or Braille.
- 6 An indicator label substantially as described herein with reference to Figures 1-4 of the accompanying drawing.

Amendments to the claims have been filed as follows

- 1 A label which comprises a sheet of an electrically insulating material containing an appropriate number of holes of a suitable size, shape and spacing to enable it to be easily located on the pins of an electrical plug, such that on the insertion of the plug into its mating socket, the device is trapped between the two, leaving some part of its surface clearly visible and carrying an instruction, warning or identity label.
- 2 An indicator label as claimed in Claim 1 which has a visual indication which is either permanent or temporary and may be applied by engraving, printing or separately affixed label.
- 3 An indicator label as claimed in any preceding claim on which the indication is by means of colour-coding, symbol, written instruction or Braille.
- 4 An indicator label substantially as described herein with reference to Figures 1-4 of the accompanying drawing.